



**ATNI Midyear 2025 Convention
Airway Heights, Washington**

RESOLUTION # 2025 – 19

**“STUDYING AND ADVANCING TRIBAL NEEDS FOR ELECTRIC GRID
MODERNIZATION”**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are the representatives and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and Indian tribal governments in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the federal trust responsibility has its roots in land cessions made by Tribal Nations and in the promises made by the United States to protect the rights of Tribal Nations to govern themselves on their own lands; and

WHEREAS, Tribal citizens have lower access to electricity than almost any other demographic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, ATNI values investing in sustainability including through responsibly sited, Tribally-owned renewable energy projects; and

WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes face significant barriers to economically viable clean energy due to a lack of grid infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, existing transmission planning processes are opportunities to alleviate Tribal needs for grid infrastructure for both electrification and economic development through renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, Tribes are often left out of transmission planning until the environmental review phase, when plans are already mostly solidified; and

WHEREAS, transmission development can have burdensome impacts on Tribal lands and resources if Tribes are not effectively engaged and consulted with in the early stages of planning and development; now

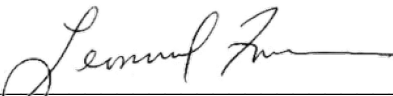
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on transmission planners and developers at every level to proactively work to ensure new transmission development addresses, rather than repeating, the mistakes of past developments by incorporating Tribal needs for infrastructure, responsible land use, and early engagement and consultation resulting in free, prior and informed consent for new transmission developments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on transmission planners and developers at the private, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), and governmental levels to communicate with Tribal governments about transmission planning initiatives; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on transmission planners and developers at every level to fund opportunities for Tribal involvement and oversight in transmission planning and include Tribal electricity infrastructure needs and sovereignty as a core component of any new transmission planning and development on Reservation, ceded, or other Tribal lands.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2025 Midyear Convention held at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino in Airway Heights Washington on May 11-15, 2025, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary